

15 August 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR RICHARD HELMS, COPS/DDP

SUBJECT: Defense Requirements for CS Support of Paramilitary Operations

In a memorandum to the DCI, dated 14 August 1961, Secretary Gilpatric indicated that Defense concurs in the use of the Covert Action Annex, Berlin Contingency Plan, for general planning purposes. I am forwarding you a copy of the Defense memorandum separately.

We have looked into the question of Defense requirements for paramilitary support in connection with the Berlin situation and find that presently stated requirements are valid. Consequently, because of the lead time required to establish covert assets to support special forces type operations and in view of the understandable difficulty involved in setting up and maintaining internally held assets for this purpose, we suggest that the preparatory action you propose in paragraph 17c of the Covert Action Annex be initiated immediately.

We shall, of course, continue to work with your representatives toward further refinement and improvement of these requirements as contingency planning progresses.

EDWARD G. LANSDALE
Brigadier General, USAF
Assistant to the
Secretary of Defense

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